

Michigan Department of Education
State Board of Education

RESOLUTION

FOR THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST MAY 1 THROUGH MAY 8, 2005

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Jews were the primary victims – six million were murdered; Gypsies, people with disabilities, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Board of Education encourages school districts to include instruction related to historic violations of human dignity including discrimination, persecution or crimes against humanity as part of their social studies curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity for students to learn about a significant documented event, and to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the State of Michigan should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980) the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be Sunday, May 1 through Sunday, May 8, 2005, including the international Day of Remembrance known as *Yom Hashoah*, May 6; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the State of Michigan to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

WHEREAS, the theme for the 2005 Days of Remembrance is "From Liberation to the Pursuit of Justice" in memory of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps and the subsequent prosecution under international law of major Nazi war criminals at Nuremberg, Germany; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education hereby proclaims the week of Sunday, May 1 through Sunday, May 8, 2005, as Days of Remembrance in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators; and be it finally

RESOLVED, The State Board of Education proclaims that we, as citizens, should strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.



Adopted March 8, 2005

Kathleen N. Straus, President

Jeremy M. Hughes, Ph.D., Chairman and
Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction